REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated March 12, 2004. Claims 1-10 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, claims 1-10 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1 and 6 have been amended. Claims 1-10 thus remain for consideration.

Applicant submits that claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

Double Patenting

Claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 21 of U.S. Patent No. 6, 611,607.

As noted by the Examiner, a timely filed terminal disclaimer may be used to overcome the double patenting rejections provided the conflicting application and/or patent is shown to be commonly owned with the present application.

It is not clear if the amended claims of the present application are obvious in view of claim 21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,611,607. Hence, Applicant will consider the filing of a Terminal Disclaimer if the amended claims of the present application are obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,611,607.

§102 Rejections

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kameyama EP 0801509.

Applicant submits that the independent claims (claims 1 and 6) are patentable over Kameyama.

Applicant's invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward a video signal processing device and a video signal processing method. The device and method are "operable to compression process selected pixels by performing, for each such selected pixel, two luminance knee processing operations followed by a saturation knee processing operation." Supporting disclosure for Applicant's compression processing scheme for can be found in the specification at, for example, page 8, line 15 – page 18, line 12.

Kameyama fails to disclose selectively applying a compression processing that includes performing two luminance knee processing operations prior to performing a saturation knee processing. Accordingly, Applicant believes that claims 1 and 6 are patentable over Kameyama on at least this basis.

Claims 2-5 depend on claim 1. Since claim 1 is believed to be patentable over Kameyama, claims 2-5 are believed to be patentable over Kameyama on the basis of their dependency on claim 1.

Claims 7-10 depend on claim 6. Since claim 6 is believed to be patentable over Kameyama, claims 7-10 are believed to be patentable over Kameyama on the basis of their dependency on claim 6.

Applicant submits that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for

the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

Statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the Applicant's undersigned attorney and, in the event that the Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

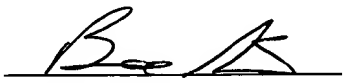
If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By: 

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